

	No. 08- 03		
Subject:	Date Issued:		
CALSTARS Training For Fall 2008	August 22, 2008		
References:	Expires:		
	December 31, 2008		

PURPOSE:

To issue the Fall 2008 CALSTARS Continuing Track and Monarch training schedule. The Fall schedule includes classes held from September 2008 through December 2008.

Note: The Winter 2009 class schedule, offering Track and Monarch classes from January 2009 through March 2009, will be issued in December 2008.

BACKGROUND:

Each year, the Department of Finance (CALSTARS) provides the following types of training classes

- Continuing Track Training for accounting staff in CALSTARS departments who have been promoted, changed duties or are coming from a non-CALSTARS department;
- Monarch Training for all staff of CALSTARS departments; and,
- Year-end Training for accounting staff of all CALSTARS departments.

POLICY:

Prerequisites:

All participants must meet the prerequisites identified in the training announcements before registering for a class. One year of experience working with CALSTARS is equivalent to completing the Track I - Introduction to CALSTARS Class.

Department Participant Limit:

Departments are limited to 4 participants in each *Track Class* and 2 participants in each *Monarch Class*. This department participation limit will apply for the entire training year. For *Track Classes*, priority should be given to accounting office staff with direct responsibility for duties related to the topic area. Participants will be registered in the order received, up to the department participation limit. Two additional staff may be placed on a waiting list for registration in the event additional space becomes available. Requests exceeding the department participation limit, plus 2, will be returned with a note stating requests exceed department participation limit.

Registration:

All participants in CALSTARS Training must register in advance by submitting a current CALSTARS Training Registration (CALSTARS 102) form. A copy of the CALSTARS 102 form (revision date of August 2008) is attached for your convenience. The form is also available on the CALSTARS' internet site at: www.dof.ca.gov/html/calstars/forms.htm. The form may be submitted electronically, mailed or faxed. All sections of the CALSTARS 102 form, including the participant's e-mail address, must be complete and legible. Incomplete or illegible registration forms may be returned to the participant for further clarification.

The CALSTARS Training Registrar enrolls each participant in their first available choice, and notifies the participant via e-mail. If all chosen classes are full, the Training Registrar places the participant on a waiting list (except when a department has already reached the participation limit plus two) and notifies them via e-mail of their placement on the waiting list. Participants on the waiting list may be contacted if there is a cancellation in one of the scheduled classes, and they are given priority registration for that Track when new classes are scheduled.

A "welcome" letter is sent via e-mail to the participant at least 7 days before the first day of class with details about the location, times and required class materials. Participants who have been notified of enrollment but do not receive a "welcome" letter prior to the scheduled class should contact the Training Registrar.

Substitutions:

A department may send a substitute if the registered participant is unable to attend. Substitute attendees must submit a completed CALSTARS Training Request (CALSTARS 102) form and must meet all applicable class prerequisites. Whenever possible, notify CALSTARS of any substitutions before the first day of class. The registered participant should give the "welcome" letter and/or any required training materials to the substitute prior to class.

Cancellations/No-Shows:

The CALSTARS Training Registrar should be notified immediately if a registered participant must cancel a class. A notice of cancellation will be accepted without penalty if received more than 5 calendar days prior to the first day of class.

Late cancellations (received 5 calendar days or less before the first day of class) or noshows for *Track Classes* for reasons other than illness or emergencies will be charged \$100 per each day of class missed per participant. Penalty charges will be invoiced and sent to the department's accounting office

Late cancellations and no-shows for **Monarch Classes** will be charged the full tuition of \$300 for Monarch 1 - Introduction and \$250 for Monarch 2 - Advanced unless the participant is replaced by a student on the waiting list. This charge does not entitle the registered participant to attend the class on a later date.

Tuition:

The cost of Monarch 1 - Introduction is \$300 per student and \$250 per student for Monarch 2 – Advanced. The course fee will be billed on a future Department of Technology Services (DTS)/CALSTARS invoice. The course fee is included in the detail portion of the invoice under the heading, Request for Adjustment. Questions pertaining to the DTS/CALSTARS Invoice should be directed to Richard Parr, CALSTARS Analyst, at (916) 445-0211, extension 2843.

There is no direct cost to departments for *Track Classes*. Training costs for the *Track Classes* (staff costs, operating expenses and indirect costs) are financed through CALSTARS. However, late cancellations (received 5 calendar days or less before the first day of class) or no-shows for *Track Classes* for reasons other than illness or emergencies will be charged \$100 per each day of class missed per participant.

Departments are responsible for any travel and per diem expenses associated with training.

Disabled Participants:

Departments are responsible for providing and paying any costs for reasonable accommodation for their employees with disabilities. Notify CALSTARS in advance on the CALSTARS 102 form of any disabilities that may affect the registrant's participation in the class.

Training Time and Location:

- All classes start at 8:30 A.M. and end at 4:30 P.M. unless otherwise noted. Participants should arrange transportation and other commitments to meet this schedule.
- All training is conducted in the Cypress Room at the Department of Finance,
 915 L Street, in Sacramento.

ACTION REQUIRED BY DEPARTMENTS:

1. Review the attached listings of the classes and dates offered. Decide who needs training and which classes are appropriate. Note:

Monarch 1 – Introduction, Monarch 2 – Advanced and Track 1 – Introduction to CALSTARS Classes are open to all staff.

Track 9 – CALSTARS Reporting Classes are open to fiscal and program staff who use CALSTARS reports.

All other Track Classes contain technical course material and are designed for accounting office staff working directly with CALSTARS.

2. Complete and submit an approved CALSTARS 102 form (revision date of August 2008) to CALSTARS. An approved CALSTARS 102 form is the authority for participants to be away from the workplace during training.

For assistance, please contact the Registrar listed on the attached course listings.

/s/Freda Luan-Dun

Assistant Program Budget Manager

Attachment

STATE OF CALIFORNIA CALSTARS TRAINING REGISTRATION

CALSTARS 102 (REV 08/08)

TO: CALSTARS Training Registrar
Department of Finance (IMS: A-15)
915 - L Street, 7th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814
FAX: (916) 323-4049
E-mail: caltrng@dof.ca.gov

REGISTRATION: Fax, mail, or e-mail completed form to address listed above. Please do not submit more than one copy. **REGISTRATION CONFIRMATION:** Participants are notified via e-mail of enrollment or placement on a waiting list when classes are full. A Welcome Letter is sent via e-mail to each participant at least 7 days prior to the scheduled training. Registrants not receiving a Welcome Letter at least 5 days prior to the scheduled class should contact the CALSTARS registrar.

SUBSTITUTIONS: Departments may substitute staff who meet the course prerequisites. Substitute attendees must present a completed CALSTARS Training Registration Form (CALSTARS 102).

CANCELLATIONS, NO SHOWS: Departments must notify the CALSTARS Registrar of cancellations at least 5 days prior to the scheduled class to avoid penalty charges. The CALSTARS Registrar must be notified of cancellations in the case of illness or unforseen emergency as soon as possible, but no later than 8:30 a.m. on the day of class.

Late cancellations (received 5 days or less prior to the scheduled class) and no-shows for Track classes other than illness or unforseen emergencies will be charged \$100 per each day of class missed per participant. Late cancellations and no-shows for Monarch classes will be charged the full tuition.

REASONABLE ACCOMODATIONS: Must be provided by the registrant's department.

REASONABLE	ACCOMODA	HUNS: Must be p	provided by the	e registrant's depa	artment.				
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CALSTARS MONARCH 1 – INTRODUCTION

WHAT: This one and one-half day session covers the basic use of Monarch, a data

access and analysis tool that allows CALSTARS clients to view, query, and analyze their CALSTARS reports which have been downloaded from a

mainframe environment to a PC.

WHO: Open to all staff of CALSTARS departments.

PREREQUISITES: Basic knowledge of Windows 95/98/NT, mouse proficiency and

completion of the Monarch lessons in the Monarch Learning guide.

OBJECTIVE: Upon completion, participants will know how to use Monarch to:

Read report file data;

• Query, filter, sort, summarize and create data extraction templates;

• Export data for use with other PC applications using advanced Monarch

techniques and utilities.

WHEN: Section 1 – September 15-16, 2008

Section 2 – September 22-23, 2008

REGISTRAR: Cindy Chastain

Phone: (916) 445-0211, extension 2812 E-mail: cindy.chastain@dof.ca.gov

TUITION: The cost of each one and one-half day session is \$300 per student.

Late cancellations and no-shows will be charged the full tuition of \$300 unless the participant is replaced by a student on the waiting list. This charge does not

entitle the registered participant to attend the class on a later date.

METHODOLOGY: Classes are hands-on with the instructor leading the participants interactively

through basic and advanced operations of Monarch. Each student is asked to bring two downloaded departmental CALSTARS reports, a Q16 report file (ordered at 6-5-4-1 level), and another CALSTARS report file of their choice.

CALSTARS MONARCH 2 – ADVANCED

WHAT: This one-day session covers some of the finer points of data extraction,

manipulation and presentation. Learn to use Monarch to conquer some of the toughest trapping scenarios and how to approach these problems methodically. Learn more functions and nesting combinations and how to apply them. The

class ends with an open lab session for work on your actual reports.

WHO: Open to all staff of CALSTARS departments that have completed Monarch 1 –

Introduction Training.

PREREQUISITES: Completion of Monarch 1 – Introduction Training. Participants should be

fluent with Monarch interface and comfortable with such basic skills as sampling, trapping, defining fields and manipulating associated field properties, as well as the process of creating sorts, filters, calculated

fields and summaries.

OBJECTIVE: Upon completion, participants will know how to use Monarch to:

 Deal with problematic report inconsistencies such as variable line records, variable line fields and intermittent fields;

• Better understand Monarch Functions and Expressions and how to nest them to produce targeted results:

 See the importance of combining active table filters with summary window data.

WHEN: Section 1 – October 10, 2008

REGISTRAR: Cindy Chastain

Phone: (916) 445-0211, extension 2812 E-mail: cindy.chastain@dof.ca.gov

TUITION: The cost of each one day session is \$250 per student.

Late cancellations and no-shows will be charged the full tuition of \$250 unless the participant is replaced by a student on the waiting list. This charge does not

entitle the registered participant to attend the class on a later date.

METHODOLOGY: Classes are hands-on with the instructor leading the participants interactively

through advanced operations of Monarch. Each student is asked to bring downloaded departmental CALSTARS reports of their choice for an open lab

session.

CALSTARS TRACK 1 – INTRODUCTION

WHAT: This one-day session includes a review of state accounting and budgeting

concepts and an introduction to the CALSTARS accounting, data processing

and reporting functions.

WHO: All levels of accounting staff new to CALSTARS, budget, audit, management

and program staff, who want to better understand the CALSTARS accounting

environment, are invited to attend.

PREREQUISITES: None

OBJECTIVE: Upon completion, participants will understand basic state accounting and

budgeting concepts and their application in CALSTARS.

WHEN: Section 1 – September 19, 2008

Section 2 – September 26, 2008 Section 3 – October 2, 2008

REGISTRAR: Angela Hilton

Phone: (916) 445-0211, extension 2811

E-mail: angela.hilton@dof.ca.gov

METHODOLOGY: The class discusses general concepts of state accounting and budgeting, the

Uniform Codes Manual and the CALSTARS Procedures Manual. The class also introduces participants to CALSTARS Tables, CALSTARS transaction codes

and reporting options.

NOTE: Late cancellations (received 5 calendar days or less before the first day of

class) or no-shows for class for reasons other than illness or emergencies will

be charged \$100 per each day of class missed per participant.

CALSTARS TRACK 2 – TABLES

WHAT: This four-day session includes a discussion of the CALSTARS tables, the

relationships between the tables, how to establish CALSTARS tables, and the impact of the tables on accounting transactions. This class does <u>not</u> cover the

Vendor Edit, Labor Control, Employee Master, or Timesheet Tables.

WHO: Accounting office staff responsible for establishing and maintaining CALSTARS

tables.

PREREQUISITES: Completion of the Track 1 - Introduction Class 1 (Also recommended: one

year of CALSTARS experience including table maintenance)

OBJECTIVE: Upon completion, participants will be able to identify the different CALSTARS

Tables, understand their interrelationship, and be able to prepare CALSTARS

table maintenance transactions.

WHEN: Section 1 – November 3-6, 2008

REGISTRAR: Angela Hilton

Phone: (916) 445-0211, extension 2811 E-mail: angela.hilton@dof.ca.gov

METHODOLOGY: The class will discuss applicable sections of the CALSTARS Procedures

Manual and complete exercises to code and input entries for each of the CALSTARS tables. Participants will review their table activity reports the

following day.

NOTE: Late cancellations (received 5 calendar days or less before the first day of

class) or no-shows for class for reasons other than illness or emergencies will

be charged \$100 per each day of class missed per participant.

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One year of experience working with CALSTARS is equivalent to completing the Track 1 - Introduction to CALSTARS Class.

CALSTARS TRACK 3 – ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND DAILY SYSTEM ACTIVITY

WHAT: A three-day session covering:

Transaction codes;

Financial Input;

Vendor Edit Table;

Encumbrance accounting;

• Claim schedule process;

Input/edit/update process;

• System reconciliation; and,

Error correction.

WHO: Accounting office staff responsible for accounts payable processing, error

correction, and/or daily system reconciliation. Also for supervisors who review

these activities.

PREREQUISITES: Completion of the Track 1 - Introduction Class 1 (Also recommended:

Accounting 1A, three months of CALSTARS experience and some

experience with financial input.)

OBJECTIVE: Upon completion, participants will understand how to select transaction codes,

record activity related to all phases of Accounts Payable, perform daily system

reconciliations, and make error corrections.

WHEN: Section 1 – September 3-5, 2008

Section 2 – September 10-12, 2008

Section 3 – October 6-8, 2008

REGISTRAR: Angela Hilton

Phone: (916) 445-0211, extension 2811

E-mail: angela.hilton@dof.ca.gov

METHODOLOGY: This practical class consists mostly of hands-on training. The class will discuss

applicable sections of the CALSTARS Procedures Manual and will practice coding various accounting transactions on CALSTARS forms. Each participant will then input his or her transactions in CALSTARS. Participants will review the resulting reports from the CALSTARS nightly batch process, reconcile the

daily activity, and make appropriate error corrections.

NOTE: Late cancellations (received 5 calendar days or less before the first day of

class) or no-shows for class for reasons other than illness or emergencies will

be charged \$100 per each day of class missed per participant.

One year of experience working with CALSTARS is equivalent to completing the Track 1 - Introduction to CALSTARS Class.

CALSTARS TRACK 4 - LABOR DISTRIBUTION SUBSYSTEM TRAINING

WHAT: A one and one-half day session describing each CALSTARS Labor Table

(including tables for timesheets and adjusted timesheets), the accounting transactions generated by the Labor Distribution Subsystem, and the resulting

reports.

WHO: Accounting office staff responsible for the Labor Distribution tables. Also for

accounting staff whose departments are considering changing their labor distribution method or are contemplating implementation of a timesheet reporting

process.

PREREQUISITES: Completion of Track 1 -Introduction Class 1 (Also recommended: six

months of CALSTARS experience.)

OBJECTIVE: Upon completion, participants will be able to establish records for each Labor

Distribution Table, identify the steps involved in Labor Distribution, and understand the use of timesheets in the Labor Distribution Process.

WHEN: Section 1 – October 27-28, 2008

REGISTRAR: Angela Hilton

Phone: (916) 445-0211, extension 2811 E-mail: angela.hilton@dof.ca.gov

METHODOLOGY: The class will discuss applicable sections of the CALSTARS Procedures Manual,

code and input entries for each Labor Distribution Table, review table activity reports and output from both a regular and adjustment Labor Distribution process.

NOTE: Late cancellations (received 5 calendar days or less before the first day of class)

or no-shows for class for reasons other than illness or emergencies will be

charged \$100 per each day of class missed per participant.

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¹ One year of experience working with CALSTARS is equivalent to completing the Track 1 - Introduction to CALSTARS Class.

CALSTARS TRACK 5 - SCO RECONCILIATION AND MONTH-END CLOSE

WHAT: A two-day session covering month-end closing and reconciliation of SCO

appropriation accounts, the clearing account and Federal Trust Fund 44

accounts.

WHO: Accounting office staff responsible for preparing monthly reconciliations,

completing the monthly close process, and for submitting PFA transfer requests.

Also for supervisors who review these activities.

PREREQUISITES: Completion of Track 1 - Introduction Class 1 and Accounting 1A (Also

recommended six months of CALSTARS experience.)

OBJECTIVE: Upon completion of this session, participants will be able to:

Identify steps for completing and closing fiscal month-end;

Prepare a month-end PFA transfer request;
 Reconcile SCO appropriation accounts; and

• Reconcile Federal Trust Fund 44 accounts.

WHEN: Section 1 – September 24-25, 2008

Section 2 – October 29-30, 2008

REGISTRAR: Angela Hilton

Phone: (916) 445-0211, extension 2811 E-mail: angela.hilton@dof.ca.gov

METHODOLOGY: The class will discuss and perform various practical exercises on closing fiscal

month-end, prepare PFA transfer requests, and reconcile SCO appropriation

accounts, the clearing account and Federal Trust Fund 44 accounts.

NOTE: Late cancellations (received 5 calendar days or less before the first day of class)

or no-shows for class for reasons other than illness or emergencies will be

charged \$100 per each day of class missed per participant.

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¹ One year of experience working with CALSTARS is equivalent to completing the Track 1 - Introduction to CALSTARS Class.

CALSTARS TRACK 6 - OFFICE REVOLVING FUND AND CHECKWRITER SUBSYSTEM

WHAT: A two-day session covering the CALSTARS Office Revolving Fund (ORF)

and the Checkwriter Subsystem.

WHO: Accounting office staff responsible for entering transactions in ORF (Fund

0998), using the Automated Checkwriter, or preparing the monthly Bank

Reconciliation. Also for supervisors who review these activities.

PREREQUISITES: Completion of the Track 1 - Introduction Class 1 (Also recommended:

Accounting 1A and three months of CALSTARS experience)

OBJECTIVE: Upon completion, participants will be able to:

Enter accounting transactions for manual ORF checks;

• Identify CALSTARS reports used to reconcile ORF;

• Enter transactions to generate Automated Checks; and

Prepare a monthly Bank Reconciliation using the CALSTARS Check

Reconciliation Menu.

WHEN: Section 1 – October 16-17, 2008

Section 2 – November 17-18, 2008

REGISTRAR: Cindy Chastain

Phone: (916) 445-0211, extension 2812 E-mail: cindy.chastain@dof.ca.gov

METHODOLOGY: The class will discuss applicable sections of the CALSTARS Procedures

Manual and do practical exercises.

NOTE: Late cancellations (received 5 calendar days or less before the first day of

class) or no-shows for class for reasons other than illness or emergencies

will be charged \$100 per each day of class missed per participant.

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One year of experience working with CALSTARS is equivalent to completing the Track 1 - Introduction to CALSTARS Class.

CALSTARS TRACK 7 - CASH RECEIPTS AND ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

WHAT: A one-day session on accounting for cash receipts, cash remittances and

accounts receivable.

WHO: Accounting office staff responsible for recording cash receipts, remittances or

accounts receivables. Also for supervisors who review these activities and staff

who reconcile these activities to SCO.

PREREQUISITES: Completion of the Track 1 - Introduction Class 1 (Also recommended:

Accounting 1A and three months of CALSTARS experience.)

OBJECTIVE: Upon completion, participants will have an understanding of how to record activity

in CALSTARS for cash receipts, remittances and accounts receivables.

WHEN: Section 1 – September 9, 2008

Section 2 – October 15, 2008 Section 3 – October 20, 2008

REGISTRAR: Cindy Chastain

Phone: (916) 445-0211, extension 2812 E-mail: cindy.chastain@dof.ca.gov

METHODOLOGY: The class will discuss applicable sections of the CALSTARS Procedures Manual

and do practical exercises.

NOTE: Late cancellations (received 5 calendar days or less before the first day of

class) or no-shows for class for reasons other than illness or emergencies

will be charged \$100 per each day of class missed per participant.

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One year of experience working with CALSTARS is equivalent to completing the Track 1 - Introduction to CALSTARS Class.

CALSTARS TRACK 8 - TRANSFERS, LOANS, and GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND FUNDS

WHAT: A two-day session on the specialized accounting for interfund transfers.

interfund loans, loan principal disbursements, and General Obligation (GO) Bond Funds in CALSTARS. Emphasis is on the accounting events, the structure of the CALSTARS tables, and how to read the various CALSTARS

reports.

WHO: Accounting office staff that record accounting events and year-end accruals

> in CALSTARS for interfund transfers, interfund loans, loan principal disbursements, and GO Bond Funds. Other accounting office staff may participate if they have a need to know how these events are accounted for

in CALSTARS or reported at year-end to the SCO.

PREREQUISITES: Completion of Track 5 - SCO Reconciliation and Month-end Close and

Track 9 – CALSTARS Reporting. Also recommended – one year of

experience in reconciliations and reporting.

OBJECTIVE: Upon completion, participants will have an understanding of how to record

accounting events in CALSTARS for interfund transfers, interfund loans, loan

principal disbursements, and GO Bond Funds

WHEN: Section 1 – December 2-3, 2008

REGISTRAR: Cindy Chastain

> Phone: (916) 445-0211, extension 2812 E-mail: cindy.chastain@dof.ca.gov

METHODOLOGY: The class will discuss sections of the CALSTARS Procedures Manual.

> Volume 3, including Chapter II Interfund Transfers, Chapter III GO Bond Funds, Chapter IV Interfund Transfers and Chapter V, Loan Principal

Disbursements. Participants will do quizzes and practical exercises in each

subject area.

NOTE: Late cancellations (received 5 calendar days or less before the first day of

class) or no-shows for class for reasons other than illness or emergencies

will be charged \$100 per each day of class missed per participant.

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CALSTARS TRACK 9 – CALSTARS REPORTING

WHAT: A one-day session covering CALSTARS Reporting.

WHO: Accounting office staff that use various CALSTARS reports. Budget and

other non-accounting staff that are familiar with or use CALSTARS reports.

PREREQUISITES: None.

OBJECTIVE: Upon completion, participants will be able to:

Recognize the uses for the various CALSTARS reports.

Read and interpret standard CALSTARS reports.

Select and order reports at the appropriate level of detail and output

media.

WHEN: Section 1 – September 17, 2008

Section 2 – September 30, 2008 Section 3 – October 21, 2008

REGISTRAR: Cindy Chastain

Phone: (916) 445-0211, extension 2812 E-mail: cindv.chastain@dof.ca.gov

METHODOLOGY: The class will use CALSTARS Procedures Manual, Volume 6, and do

practical exercises to learn about and discuss CALSTARS reporting.

NOTE: Late cancellations (received 5 calendar days or less before the first day of

class) or no-shows for class for reasons other than illness or emergencies

will be charged \$100 per each day of class missed per participant.

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